

Claude R. Cook the New Curator

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Jones County did the same. He betrayed (violated) the promises which he made before his election & after the adjournment was appointed Register of one of the Land offices. The Democratic member from Clayton Co. was detained at home by the sickness of his family & could not attend the caucus. He would have voted for me. The spring before Congress made an appropriation of \$60,000 for public surveys here & several members of the legislature received profitable contracts.

At the time of the adjournment of the 1st legislature without electing Senators, Gov. Briggs offered to appoint Gen. Dodge & myself U. S. Senators, but I prevented his doing so, under the belief that the Senate would decide that there was no vacancy as no one before had ever held the office. Some time after this the Senate decided that such an appointment was valid. I am glad to give you any information in my power on the subject.

Your friend

T. S. WILSON

I would have answered your letter sooner, but was prevented from doing so by being engaged for over a week in trial of an important law suit. I intended to copy this part of the answer, but have not time.

CLAUDE R. COOK THE NEW CURATOR

The Board of Trustees of the Iowa State Department of History & Archives, at the June meeting, elected Claude R. Cook, of Red Oak, Iowa, as acting curator of the department, as the successor of Ora Williams retired. Mr. Cook is a native of Iowa, born on a farm near Kent, in Union county; educated at Kent and Simpson college and has enjoyed a varied editorial experience upon daily newspapers at Creston, Council Bluffs and Des Moines; was admitted to the Des Moines Conference of the M. E. church in 1914, serving as minister at Tabor, Pacific Junction, Gray, Randolph, Coin, Osceola, Carroll, Ottumwa and Marengo; voluntarily located at Red Oak as executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in 1944. He is married and has a son, W. R. Cook, Norfolk, Neb., an alumnus of Cornell college, Iowa, and a daughter, Marian E., alumnus of Grinnell college, now studying voice in Julliard School of Music in New York. Mr. Cook comes to the state position well equipped and assumed his duties July 1.

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